

PATENT

REMARKS

The applicants have studied the Office Action dated October 20, 2004. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended, and claims 13 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

The applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-14. Claim 15 has been canceled.

Claims 1-5 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Torres et al. (5,898,213).

Claims 6-10 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torres et al. in view of Chou et al. (5,691,568). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 recites "connecting a plurality of solder balls to the at least one bond island, the plurality of solder balls being located inwardly from an edge of the substrate,

wherein at least one redundant solder ball is used to form a path for the inner solder balls connected to bond islands to be electrically plated."

Claim 12 recites a similar language.

The Torres and Chou references do not disclose at least one redundant solder ball used to form a path for the inner solder balls connected to bond islands to be electrically plated, as recited in the claims.

Thus, claims 1-14 now distinguish over the art of record.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-14 should be withdrawn

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Should any issues remain which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone Assignee's undersigned attorney.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 17-0026. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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